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Assistant Director for Operations 3 January 1951

Chief, FBID

Progress report for December 1950

1. On 18 December Mr. Alan M. Warfield was appointed Chief, FBID, vice Colonel L. K. White.

2. The Chief, Okinawa Bureau, proceeded to Saigon to explore the possibility of increasing FBID coverage of Indochina through exploitation of French, Vietnamese and American Legation radio monitoring and press scrutiny. Adequate Indochinese coverage may be obtained with a small expenditure by accepting the French monitoring of Ho-controlled transmitters; by a scrutiny of the Indochinese press in conjunction with the USIS of the American Legation; by continuing monitoring coverage at Okinawa of French and Vietnam broadcasts from Saigon. A staff of one classified American editor, one unclassified American editorial assistant to be hired on a contractual basis and four locally hired native employees as translators and teletypists is required for the proposed project.

3. On 14 December with the concurrence of G-2, U.S. Eighth Army, the temporary operation in Seoul terminated its activities after resumption of broadcasting from North Korea by the North Korean Government with a shortwave transmitter monitorable at Tokyo and Okinawa. The Chief of the Tokyo Bureau returned to Tokyo after the deactivation of the Seoul operation.

4. The following special reports were prepared for the attention of the President:

"Foreign Radio Reactions to President Truman's 30 November Press Statement on the Atom Bomb," dated 1 December.

"Foreign Radio Reactions to the President's Meeting With Prime Minister Attlee and to the 30 November Statement on the Atom Bomb," (four separate reports), dated 4-7 December.

"Foreign Radio Reactions to the Communique on the President's Talks With Prime Minister Attlee," dated 11 December.

"Communist Radio Reactions to the President's Talks With Prime Minister Attlee," dated 14 December.

"Foreign Radio Reactions to President Truman's 15 December Radio Address," dated 18 December.

Other special reports were: "Soviet Propaganda (Some General Observations), 1947-50," prepared in response to a CD request and

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published as Report [redacted] dated 1 December; a supplement to "Soviet Propaganda," [redacted] published 29 December; "Omissions in Soviet Radio Discussions of the USSR" and "Soviet Broadcasting Time to Foreign Audiences," distributed as supplements to the Survey of USSR Broadcasts, dated 12 and 14 December respectively. 50X1 50X1

5. On 11 December an FBID representative, [redacted] conferred with officials of the VOA in New York on matters of coverage and working procedures with the aim of improving FBID's service to VOA. It was agreed that FBID would furnish VOA a daily Far East Roundup, similar in style and format to the European Roundup as soon as staffing permits. Other subjects considered included: use of the Department of State "security wire"; the Restricted nature of FBID Daily Reports; FBID receipt of the VOA news service; description of foreign radio entertainment programs; VOA receipt of original language recordings. 50X1

6. Extensive communications outages, particularly in the North Atlantic circuit, occurred on an unprecedented scale during December. The result was a drastic reduction in monthly Daily Report verbage. Efforts during the past year to expand the number, type and capacity of Atlantic circuits have been justified by these poor propagation conditions. The State Department cable has been useful but, thus far, unreliable. The value of commercial cables during outages of the radio circuits has been augmented by the installation of another printer in the FBID Wire Room. It is planned to install equipment in London next month which will permit activation of the Navy circuit recently made available.

7. FBID Headquarters transferred to its new location in Eye Quarters, Ohio Drive, Washington 25, D.C., on 2 December 1950. The move was accomplished expeditiously with only minor disruption of service.

8. Special dissemination changes:

a. The extension of wire service to VOA, New York, to a 24-hour basis was initiated on 7 December.

b. Prior to the departure of Secretary Acheson for the Brussels Conference, he was given the reaction of West European radios to the Republican's ouster movement. During the Conference, the London Bureau prepared daily summaries of material in the same context which were delivered to the U.S. Embassy in London.

c. At the request of the U.S. Embassy in London, distribution of the daily European Roundup to the Deputies of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was inaugurated. State Department has been authorized to arrange for reproduction and distribution of this material. No visible reference is made to its source and it is issued without classification.

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d. Daily distribution of the Russian Roundup to the U.S. Embassy in The Hague was commenced at the request of Minister Holmes in London.

e. With the closing of the radio station serving the U.S. Embassy, Seoul, FBIS material, previously filed from the Okinawa and Tokyo Bureaus to Seoul for the Embassy and G-2, EUSAK, was discontinued. This service will be resumed upon request of the consumers.

f. At the request of consumers in OIR, Department of State, the German Roundup was reinstituted by the London Bureau on 12 December.

g. At the request of OPC a private line connection between OPC and the FBID wire service was installed.

ALAN M. WARFIELD

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